

Remarks

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1–10, 28, 35, 39 are canceled, and claims 26, 36, 38 and 40 are amended. Claims 12–15 have been previously canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter was added by the amendment, as all of the amended matter was either previously illustrated or described in the drawings, written specification and/or claims of the present application. Entry of the amendment and favorable consideration thereof is earnestly requested.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner has indicated that claims 11, 16-25, and 33–34 are allowed.

Objected to Claims

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 26 as amended is allowable. The examiner indicated that claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 28 depends on base claim 26. The Applicant has amended claim 26 to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 28. The Applicant has further canceled claim 28.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 29-32 as amended are allowable. The examiner indicated that claims 29-32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has amended independent base claim 26 so that it is now in allowable form. Claim 29 and 30 depend on claim 26 as amended. Claims 31 and 32 both depend on intervening claim 30, which in turn depends on independent base claim 26 as amended.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 36 as amended is allowable. The examiner indicated that claim 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form in-

cluding all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 36 based on the Examiner's recommendation.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 37 as amended is allowable as it is based on independent claim 36, which the applicant respectfully submits is allowable as amended.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 38 as amended is allowable. The examiner indicated that claim 38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 38 based on the Examiner's recommendation.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 40 as amended is allowable. The examiner indicated that claim 40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 40 based on the Examiner's recommendation.

Rejected Claims

The examiner has rejected claims 26, 35, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,002,325 to Herfeld. The Applicant has amended claim 26 to include the patentable subject matter of dependent claim 28, as discussed above. Accordingly, the Applicant has canceled dependent claim 28. The Applicant has canceled rejected claim 35, and claim 39.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable over the cited references, and written in proper form.

Respectfully submitted,

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